

Introduction

The 1999 edition of the Michigan Library Statistical Report presents data provided by academic libraries, public libraries, public library cooperatives, and those public libraries which serve as regional or subregional outlets to provide services for blind and physically handicapped patrons.

For academic libraries, data is compiled from the 1998 academic libraries survey distributed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Definitions for these data elements are based on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS-L). All postsecondary libraries in the state were invited to participate. The 91 libraries that responded are included in this report.

For public libraries the reporting year is the most recent fiscal year completed by each library prior to October 1, 1998. Definitions for data elements are based on the Federal State Cooperative System for Public Library Data (FSCS) of the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. By using this national system and its definitions of terms, Michigan's data is comparable with that of the other 49 states and the District of Columbia. Of course, caution should be used in comparing any one library with national or state averages.

All legally established public libraries in the state of Michigan were invited to respond. Data was collected as part of the State Aid Application. Library systems were asked to report data that includes their main and branch libraries. A copy of the Public Library Annual Report form and instructions are included in this publication.

The calculated total for "Population of Library Service Area" exceeds the state's total population because more than one public library may count the same population. For example, a district library may share part of another library's service area by virtue of having a participating municipality, such as a school district, with geographic boundaries extending into the adjoining library's service area. Statewide totals, averages, and per capita were calculated based on the actual total state unduplicated population.

The publication includes a Public Library Index that identifies basic information for each library including the class size under which library data is reported. A library is listed twice in the Public Library Index if the library experienced a name change between its reporting year end and the reporting date of the Public Library Annual Report. Data from the Public Library Annual Report Section A, Current Information, is presented under the name of the library at the reporting date. Reports included in this section are Salary and Benefit Information; Non-Resident Fees and MichiCard Membership; and all Technology. Data from the Public Library Annual Report Section B, Reporting Year Information, is presented under the name of the library at the

library's reporting year end. Reports included in this section are Outlets, Hours and Staff; Operating Income; Operating Expenditures; Capital Income and Expenditures and Square Footage; Library Collections; and Library Services.

The following libraries had a name change:

<u>Reporting Date Name</u>	<u>Reporting Year End Name</u>
Ashley District Library	Established 7/28/98
Delta Township District Library	Established 7/1/98
Sandusky District Library	Sandusky Public Library
Sanilac District Library	Sanilac Township Library

Bay County Library System, Muskegon County Library and Wayne County Public Library do not report central libraries. They are included in the 383 public libraries in the statewide summary reports.

To make the publication more readable, a blank indicates that the library reported "0", "none", or did not report. Data was accepted as reported. In some cases, libraries were contacted to clarify responses. There were no imputations for libraries that did not respond or for items left blank. Thus, unless the response rate to a data element was 100 percent, totals in the tables are probably underestimates. Data was shown as reported for Oakland County Research Library and Washtenaw County Library, but in specific reports was not included in the totals or averages due to their having a unique structure not consistent with other Class I libraries.

Librarians, trustees, and local government officials can use library data in a variety of ways to support local long-range planning efforts, the local budget process, evaluation, and in general, for informed decision-making. Statistics can be used to demonstrate effective use of public funds, involvement in a community, and the need for new services or electronic resources. Users of this information should note that libraries, including those of similar size, have varying funding and service patterns, and that a single data element does not present the entire picture. All data must be interpreted in an appropriate context and in terms of the library's overall service program. Statistical data can only suggest patterns and indicate areas which may need improvement or special attention by the local decision-makers.

Thank you to all respondents for the accurate reporting of these statistics. We want to make this report as complete and useful as possible. If you have any comments or suggestions, we would like to hear from you. Please direct your comments to Naomi Krefman at the Library of Michigan, 717 West Allegan Street, P.O. Box 30007, Lansing, MI 48909-7507, e-mail: nkrefman@libofmich.lib.mi.us.

This publication is also available on the Library of Michigan web site at <http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/publications/lmpublist.html>.